

From Editor  
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CUBAN TRIALS

To the Editor:

This week in Havana there is a trial going on against 1179 men for treason. These were the patriots who in April of 1961 were of the invading forces at the Bay of Pigs. The operation had its start in the Eisenhower administration, and was a carry-over to the Kennedy administration.

During the campaign J.F.K. seemed fond of referring to the Communist-ness in Cuba as just 90 miles from our shores. It can be readily understood that it was a reflection on the Eisenhower administration. And that being conceded, it would seem that when J.F.K. got on the job, there would be changes in that regard. The proposed operation of invasion of Cuba had been set up by the CIA and had the go-ahead blessings of the chiefs of staff of both the army and the navy. The invaders were happy in the thought that Uncle Samuel was always a man of his word. So everything was supposed to be set for what was hoped would free Cuba from Castro — and would have done so had not timidity prevailed at a time when strength was the keynote to success. One would suppose that when J.F.K. took over the job he would want to rectify the situation. But we all know now that these Cuban patriots were lured to their destruction.

The trial of these confiding souls would seem to be one that could cause no exultant feeling on our part. Rather, we Americans could hardly quell the feeling that we permitted their capture after we had planned their release. Why did we hesitate? Was it because of the OAS tie-in? If the latter, it would seem a rather poor excuse.

While we can't agree at all times with Richard M. Nixon, we agree when he says, relative to the Bay of Pigs invasion, "The American people would have supported the Cubans' attempt to rid themselves of a Communist tyrant last April altho the administration was not prepared to do so."

Are we prepared to ask ourselves, is the anchoring of the Carrier Enterprise off Guantanamo Naval Base a symbol of deterrence against communism or not?

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